

Meeting of the ADA Commission
Minutes

Tuesday, April 13, 2021, 6:30 pm,

Location: Zoom

Attending: Brion Berghaus, Catherine Evans, ElijahTucker, Denise Shea, and guest, Amy Loveless

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:40 by Brion Berghaus. Catherine Evans seconded. Roll call: Denise Shea and Elijah Tucker agreed.

2. Public Comment: There was no public comment.

3. Reports

- a. Chair's Report: Elijah let us know that the application to be on the Town Warrant was accepted for the May Town Meeting.

Elijah asked members to include, in the signatures of their emails, information that shows that they are members of the Maynard ADA. That way people might begin to know who is on the board and who they might be able to turn to for ADA-related help.

Elijah also reported that CIVICO, the company doing the reuse of the old Coolidge School, has gotten approval to move forward with their plans, including the changes in accessibility entrances, which the Maynard ADA approved of in the late fall. (see Dec. 8 minutes)

b. Member's Report:

Brion reported on the Coolidge Playground. The handicapped swing has been replaced. The town will be conducting inspections of playgrounds and noting any deficiencies. So it is likely we will see some work done at Coolidge Playground after that has taken place.

Amy Loveless suggested that we acknowledge the work done by Justin DeMarkco of the DPW, and Town administrator, Greg Johnson to the BOS-- it will help raise awareness about the ADA.

c. Catherine Evans noticed that the Town website doesn't have the meeting minutes from December through February.

4. **Consent Agenda** (Commission may vote)

a. Review Minutes of March 9th: Elijah motioned to approve the minutes. Catherine seconded. Roll call in favor: Denise, Brion, Elijah, and Catherine. None against.

b. Update on Post Office: Postmaster Raymond told Denise that he has put in a request for an automatic door opener.

He said that the postal system is restructuring and going to be designing new drop-off mailboxes and that he's not sure if he'll just have one instead of the current two. Dealing with just one box might make it easier to place in a better location.

The extra tables positioned in the post office in front of the service counters were cause for ADA concern. These tables were mandated by the U.S. Postal System during COVID. Denise recommended a few small changes that the Postmaster agreed to implement (moving plants, relocating cards, sliding tables a few inches to the left). She also told him about the 27" width requirement for accessibility. After their meeting, he contacted her to let her know that he was able to give the handicapped counter 44" of accessibility space. They had also talked about how they have been offering assistance to people with disabilities during this COVID period.

- c. Update on Town Meeting Warrant: Elijah reported that the BOS and FINCOM have approved our application for official 8J status to be included in the Town Warrant. Town Council made some minor edits, including a limit on the number of members (5) which will include our Town Liaison. We discussed whether we should write into our bylaws the inclusion of alternates who might be able to vote in the absence of a quorum. Amy Loveless agreed to provide the wording that was used for the Council on Aging.

When 8J passes at Town Meeting, Maynard's ADA will be able to do such things as apply for state funding.

- d. Mission Statement
(<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1BQBq7HPAsQRIM9OEHDVqK7jqgNaU8gNgKBDiFdfqx0I/edit?usp=sharing>)
- e. Commission By-Laws
- f. Transition plan
(<https://www.townofmaynard-ma.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/ada-transition-plan-2018.pdf>)

Elijah made a motion to table items d, e, and f until after the Town Meeting in May. Catherine seconded. Roll call was taken. Approving to table the motion were: Denise, Brion, Elijah, and Catherine. None were against.

5. Other Matters Properly Brought Before the Board:

A. Brion wanted to know if we needed ADA members at Town Meeting to answer any questions. It doesn't seem necessary since we have both the BOS and FINCOM approving.

B. Brion also wanted to know if approval of 8J would mean a name change for our group, perhaps Maynard Commission on Disability (which all agreed seemed easier to understand)

C. Amy Loveless wanted to commend us on our achievements over the last year, even though we haven't really had a town liaison. All agreed that we couldn't have done it without Amy's guidance.

D. We need someone to be committed to the ADA as a town liaison. Ideally, an appointment would carry the most commitment. Elijah will check with the Town Clerk, Joanna, to see if our former liaison, Tim, had been appointed

6. Next meeting: May 11, 2021, at 6:30 pm via Zoom. All agenda items need to be sent to Elijah by April 27th.

7. Adjourn: Denise motioned to adjourn. Elijah seconded the motion. Roll call was taken. Those in favor of adjourning were: Brion, Catherine, Elijah, and Denise. The meeting ended at 7:35 pm.

Approved on Tuesday, June 8, 2021, with a vote of 4 - 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Elijah Tucker

Elijah Tucker

Chair

Americans with Disabilities Act Commission

Maynard, MA 01754